

4. Report Applications

There are a variety of different uses for MTCS reports. This section highlights some of the important data fields in the report and describes the ways MTCS users can use the data contained in this report

HUD intends users to challenge information contained in MTCS reports because often, upon further investigation, the problems or issues may be different than they appear in MTCS. Use MTCS data and reports as a starting point for discussion, investigation, research, and analysis.

4.1. Key Data Fields

- The **Percent of All Households** (That Moved) provide MTCS users with an aggregate indicator of how many Section 8 families relocated to another unit within a PHA's jurisdiction (mobility).
- The **Percent of All Households** (Exercising Port-in Moves) reflect the number of Section 8 families that used the opportunity of greater housing choice that the Section 8 program offers to move into the PHA from another jurisdiction (portability).

4.2. PHA Uses for the Report

- **Plan and administer programs**

PHAs can use the data in the Mobility and Portability Report to monitor shifts in demand for assisted housing. The data may also indicate the need for more or improved owner outreach if the PHA finds a large number or percent of previously assisted families moved instead of leased in place. Data from the report can also support PHA analysis of local housing needs in their PHA Plans. For example, a PHA may find after examining its Mobility and Portability Report over the year that the percentage of hard to house families (i.e., families with three or more minors) that moved increased. This statistic may indicate that their housing needs changed or that there was an increase in demand for larger units in the area. This information can help a PHA as it fills out its PHA Plan and completes its strategic planning for the year.

4.3. HUD Uses for the Report

- **Assess PHA performance and monitor quality**

Statistics on mobility do not provide enough information to identify noncompliance or assess a PHA's performance as strong or poor but they do provide data to show the percent of residents that move within the PHA. There are no objectively high or low rates of mobility but a comparison of mobility rates for PHAs with similar vacancy rates and housing markets may help Field Offices and TARC's identify strengths and weaknesses in PHA briefings and owner outreach activities. Very high or very low mobility rates may indicate a data problem such as reporting all families as movers.

Field Office or TARC analysis of portability data may identify PHA budget or management issues like, for example, whether cross-PHA billing is effective.